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NOTES AND NEWS.

The autumn meeting of the Southwestern Section of the American Mathematical Society was held at the University of Kansas on November 29 and 30. That of the San Francisco Section was held at the University of California on October 26. M.

On November 7, Editor Slaughter delivered an address before the Iowa State Association of Teachers of Mathematics and Science, at their meeting in Des Moines, on the topic: "The changing conditions in relation to the secondary courses in mathematics." F.

The first number of volume 2 of the *Revista de la Sociedad Matematica Espanola*, which appeared in October, contains a new section devoted to bibliographic notices. Authors and publishers are invited to send copies of their publications for such notices to the Society at San Bernardo, 51, Madrid, Spain. M.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society will be held at Cleveland, Ohio, December 31 to January 2, in connection with the annual convocation of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The winter meeting of the Chicago Section will be merged with the annual meeting at Cleveland. M.

The twelfth annual meeting of the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers was held at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, on Friday and Saturday, November 29 and 30. An important program for mathematics teachers occupied two sessions, on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. S.

The Illinois Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi held its October meeting in honor of M. Henri Poincaré. Professor Borel of Paris spoke and called especial attention to the emphasis which his distinguished colleague had placed on the concepts of invariants and groups. Professor J. B. Shaw read a paper on Poincaré as an investigator. M.

Professor E. Borel, of Paris, France, and Professor Vito Volterra, of Rome, Italy, who were in this country for the purpose of taking part in the dedication of Rice Institute at Houston, Texas, made visits to several universities, including Illinois, Chicago, and Wisconsin in the West, and Columbia in the East. Professor Volterra also attended the meeting of the American Mathematical Society held in New York at the time of his visit there. S.

The Card Section of the Library of Congress expects to have two sets of cards for the great German and French Mathematical Encyclopedias ready for sale during December of the present year. The two sets are known as "author set" and "dictionary set." The latter contains enough copies of

the cards to make all the entries required in a dictionary catalogue and will probably cost about twice as much as the former set. Standing orders for these cards are invited at two cents for one copy of each card, and seven-tenths of a cent for each after the first entry. These cards will doubtless make the great mathematical encyclopedias very much more useful, especially since the regular indices to many of the volumes cannot appear for a number of years. M.

The readers of the MONTHLY are referred to a sketch of the life and works of the late Professor Henri Poincaré in *Science* for August 4, 1912, by Professor G. A. Miller. Professor Poincaré died suddenly on July 17. He had expected to attend the International Congress at Cambridge in August, and was to be one of the speakers at the dedication of Rice Institute at Houston, Texas, in October. Other noted mathematicians who gave addresses at this dedication were Professor Emile Borel, of the University of Paris, Professor Carl Störmer, of the University of Christiania, and Professor Vito Volterra, of the University of Rome. Professor Borel also gave lectures at the University of Illinois, the University of Chicago, and the University of Wisconsin.

Beginning in January, 1913, with Volume XX, THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL MONTHLY will pass under the control of an Editorial Board consisting of one representative from each of the nine institutions which have contributed toward a subsidy fund for its promotion, together with B. F. Finkel, the founder of the journal.

The contributing institutions are Colorado College, and the Universities of Chicago, Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Indiana, and Iowa. The editorial representatives are respectively, Florian Cajori, H. E. Slaught, G. A. Miller, E. R. Hedrick, W. H. Bussey, W. C. Brencke, C. H. Ashton, R. D. Carmichael, and A. G. Smith.

It is proposed to make this journal appeal strongly to the great body of teachers of mathematics in the collegiate and advanced secondary fields, being careful not to encroach upon the domain of any existing journals, either above or below. The animating spirit of this reorganization is the conviction that such a journal is needed not only to direct attention to questions of improvement in teaching in these fields, but also to foster the development of the scientific spirit among large numbers who are not now reached by the more highly technical journals.

The Monthly will continue to publish carefully selected scientific articles, and will encourage the production of such articles by students and teachers in the earlier stages of research work, but relatively greater attention than heretofore will be given to pedagogical and historical questions of interest and value to teachers of collegiate mathematics. For instance, an important feature of the new volume beginning in January will be the serial

publication of Professor Cajori's latest research on "The History of the Logarithmic and Exponential Concepts."

Notwithstanding this proposed enlargement of the Monthly and the doubling of its cost of production, due to the employment of the best available service in mathematical printing, the subscription price will remain at Two Dollars per year. This is made possible only by the subsidy contributions mentioned above, and it is done with the hope that the subscription list may speedily grow to such proportions as to make the journal self-supporting.

Renewals and new subscriptions should be made payable to the Treasurer, B. F. Finkel, Springfield, Mo.

Contributed articles and official correspondence should be addressed to the Managing Editor, H. E. Slaughter, 5548 Monroe Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, while all problems and solutions should be sent, for the present, to B. F. Finkel, Springfield, Mo.

The Monthly will soon issue an index of Volumes I-XIX, which will render accessible the large number and variety of contributions already published in this journal. Back numbers can be supplied at 25 cents each, and single volumes at two dollars and fifty cents each. No complete sets of the MONTHLY are available, many of the numbers being out of print. All correspondence relating to back numbers should be directed to B. F. Finkel. S.

Having gotten behind one number, we are obliged to combine two numbers in one that we may get the December number out on time and thus have the way clear for the January number, which is to come out under the new organization. F.

BOOKS.

The ABC of the Differential Calculus. By William Dyson Wansbrough, Author of the "Portable Steam Engine: Its Construction and Management;" "The Proportions and Movement of Slide Valves;" "Modern Steam Boilers;" etc. Third Edition. 16mo. Cloth, xii+148 pages. Price, \$1.50. New York: D. VanNostrand Co.

The author attempts to give the beginner an understanding of the Calculus by beginning with its most simple concepts. His illustrations are so simple and the details carried out so fully that any one ambitious enough to desire an insight into one of the most interesting of all mathematical subjects can readily gain such insight by perusing this book. F.

A Manual of Laboratory Exercises in Physics. By Frederick R. Gorton, B. S., M. A., Ph. D., Professor of Physics, Michigan State Normal College. 8vo. Cloth, xv+166 pages. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

In this little book is set forth a number of simple experiments in mechanics, sound, heat, light, and electricity and magnetism. F.